

Staff Sgt. Jason Ramsay of the U. S. Army's First Division 23rd Infantry Alpha Company Styrker unit communicates with his team at Daegu Air Base, Daegu Korea during Reception, Staging, Onward movement, and Integration/ Foal Eagle exercises (RSO&I/Foal Eagle).

U.S. Navy photo by Journalist 2nd Class John J. Pistone

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The only peninsula-wide magazine for the 8th U.S. Army Community



Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 72nd Armor Regiment take cover while moving a "wounded" Soldier during a simulated battlefield conditions exercise at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex, March 23, 2005. The Soldiers were deployed from Germany, during RSOI.

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Learning from our training in RSOI

By Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell Commander, 8th U.S. Army

isten up! Should deterrence fail, we will defend the Republic of Korea by fighting to win side-by-side with Soldiers from the Republic of Korea and as part of a multi-service, multi-national team.

If such a fight is necessary, the task of generating combat power falls upon the 8th U.S. Army. We'd face the operational challenge to assemble the right force at the right place and the right time to fight and win. In March 2005 we practiced this process during exercise RSO&I/Foal Eagle.

Exercise RSO&I/Foal Eagle is a complex multi-phase exercise conducted annually. It's tailored to train, test, and demonstrate the United States' and the Republic of Korea's force projection and deployment capabilities. In addition to the valuable training and experience, this year's exercise was made special by several events.

On the maneuver side, the exercise included the deployment of a Multiple Launch Rocket System Battery and a Cavalry Troop from Germany, a Stryker Platoon from Fort Lewis, Washington while on the waters surrounding the South Korean Peninsula the Army's TSV-1X theater support vessel demonstrated its capability to quickly transport Soldiers and equipment between the ports of Gwangyang and Pyongtaek.

From the battle staff perspective, Soldiers throughout

the 8th U.S. Army were connected with the United Nations Command and the U.S. Forces Korea command posts by a sophisticated communications network, sharing a common operational picture and conducting the complex array of activities to generate the forces required to fight and win.



Campbell

The most notable event during the exercise came on March 19 when Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice became the most senior American official to tour "Command Post Tango", a bunker in Seoul where U.S. and South Korean troops would conduct operations to defend the Republic of Korea. Secretary Rice's visit was part of a trip through South Asia and East Asia from March 14-21, 2005.

This month's issue of the "ROK Steady" features all these events and more. We are serving during a seminal time in the Republic of Korea. March was a time when our mission's significance was brought to the fore by our participation in important training and when Secretary Rice told troops at CP Tango during her visit, "I know that you face a close-in threat every day."

Defending the Republic of Korea is why we're here. Being ready to fight tonight is what we do. Pacific Victors!



National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice meets with and addresses U.S. and South Korean troops at the command control center for South Korea and U.S. Combined Forces March 19. South Korea was the fifth stop on Secretary Rice's trip to Asia.

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Soldiers cautioned about Travel Card information

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 2005 – About 900,000 Defense Department employees may be affected by Bank of America's loss of government travel card information, Pentagon officials said

today.

The General
Services Administration and Bank of
America notified
DoD that GSA
"SmartPay" travel
cards are affected.
Officials said Bank
of America has
been monitoring
the affected
accounts and there

has been no evidence of fraud or misuse of the accounts.

Bank of America is sending letters to affected employees. "Information regarding travel card program accounts for individual card The information is personal cardholder information — names, Social Security numbers, addresses and account numbers – on magnetic tape. The loss occurred in late December. GSA notified DoD on Jan.

19. McKay said the delay was necessary to protect the

integrity of the investigation.

"The bank is in the process of notifying cardholders of the situation," McKay said. "They will be given a special customer service number that has been set up by the bank specifically for this purpose. If (cardholders) have any questions, they

can contact the bank. If they would like, they may request that the bank cancel the card and reissue a card to them."

McKay added that consumers should always keep an eye on any

How can someone steal your identity? Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, Social Security number, credit card number or other identifying information, without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. Identity theft is a serious crime. People whose identities have been stolen can spend months or years - and their hard-earned money - cleaning up the mess thieves have made of their good name and credit record. In the meantime, victims may lose job opportunities, be refused loans, education, housing or cars, or even get arrested for crimes they didn't commit.

If you think your identity has been stolen, here's what to do now:

1. Contact the fraud departments of any one of the three major credit bureaus to place a fraud alert on your credit file. The fraud alert requests creditors to contact you before opening any new accounts or making any changes to your existing accounts. As soon as the credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, the other two credit bureaus will be automatically notified to place fraud alerts, and all three credit reports will be sent to you free of charge.

2. Close the accounts that you

2. Close the accounts that you know or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. Use the ID Theft Affidavit when disputing new unauthorized accounts.

3. File a police report. Get a copy of the report to submit to your creditors and others that may require proof of the crime.

4. File your complaint with the FTC. The FTC maintains a database of identity theft cases used by law enforcement agencies for investigations. Filing a complaint also helps police learn more about identity theft.

Bank of America.

holders has been lost, and it is possible that that information has been compromised, though we don't believe that that is the case," said Teresa McKay, the Defense Department's deputy chief financial officer.

The U.S. Secret Service is conducting the investigation, with help from the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. Officials said that although there has been no evidence of criminal activity, release of details on the circumstances of the loss could jeopardize the investigation.

"Indications right now are that it is an accidental event," McKay said. "The bank has been monitoring the accounts involved from the onset, and to date there has been no indication of fraudulent activity." credit
accounts they
have. "It's always
prudent for any cardholder to monitor
their monthly statements (and) dispute
any charges they may question, and
also it's important for all of us to get a
credit report at least once a year and
look at the content of that report," she
said.

Bank of America has set up a hotline for those affected. The number is (800) 493-8444. Cardholders who notice irregularities in their accounts should call the Bank of America at the 800 number printed on the back of their cards, McKay said. "If you are an affected cardholder, you may contact Bank of America for information on obtaining a free credit report," she added.



Story and photos by Spc. Sadie Bleistein Staff Writer

The 8th Annual Seoul Marathon took place Mar. 6 at the Yeouido/Han River Citizen Park where runners were able to participate in a full marathon, a half marathon, a 10 Kilometer Health Run and a 5K Fun Run.

The multi-race marathon is an annual festival for international amateur runners.

Spc. Tony Marchant, chaplain assistant with the 41st Signal Battalion at Camp Coiner was a participant in the full marathon.

"This is the first marathon I've ever ran," said Marchant. "I had five goals in life, and this (marathon) was one of them. Now it's done. I'm very tired but at the same time excited. I never tested myself this much in (my) life. I just wanted to see if I could make it."

The full and half marathons were open to all males and females over the age of 18. The Health and Fun runs were open to anyone of any age. Ann Sheehy, a family member, also participated in the full marathon as a first time marathon runner.

"I've been training for this (marathon) since the end of November," said Sheehy. "It feels good to finish, but I am very sore right now."

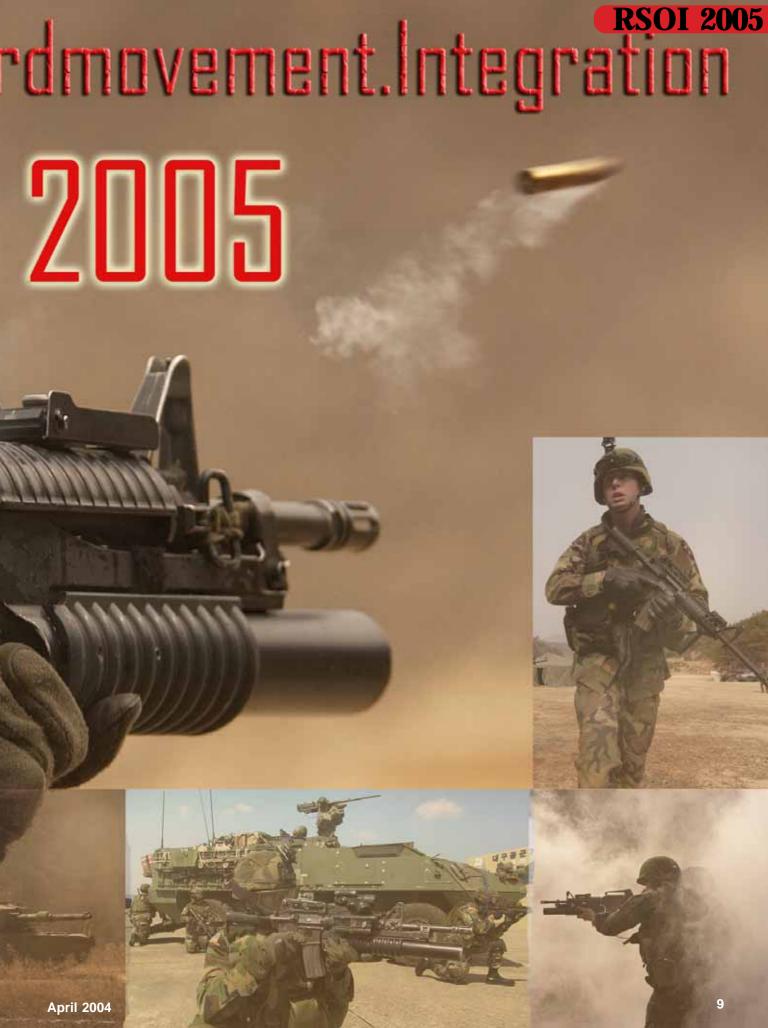
The U.S. Army Troop Command-Korea provided volunteer Soldiers and Korean Augmentees to the U.S. Army to help with the many water stations aound the marathon.

If you want to participate in one of the many marathons on peninsula, contact your local MWR for more information.



An 8th U.S. Army Soldier looks toward a crowd cheering on the runners near the start line.







Sgt. 1st Class Ricky Thompson directs Staff Sgt. Melvin Lee, both of Army Maintenance Combat Equipment Group Afloat, on where to line tactical combat equipment that had been shipped to Korea for Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration and Foal Eagle exercices March 12 in Gwangyang Port Terminal, Republic of Korea.



Korean contractors watch from shore a Theater Support Vessel, TSV-1X Spearhead pull into Gwangyang Port Terminal, Republic of Korea, to offload and onload combat tactical equipment March 15.



M1A1 Abrams Tanks and M577 Personnel Carriers are t Gwangyang Port Terminal to Pyeongtaek, Republic of k Staging, Onward Movement and Integration and Foal 14. RSO&I is a complex multi-phase exercise conduct train, test, and demonstrate the United States and the F projection and deployment capabilities. Foal Eagle ru trains in all aspects of Combined Forces Command's r

Story by Spc. Sadie Bleistein Staff Writer

his year, the port operation of Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integra tion played a key role in the success of the exercise.

The port call operation moved equipment and cargo that had come into South Korea by way of trains, ships and the Theater Support Vessel.

Soldiers working with the port operations were able to get extensive hands-on-training.

"With the real life movement of equipment

its move the pieces for RSOI



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ricky A. Bloom



Capt. Chase Metcalf, a 1-1 Cav. armor commander, prepares for a live fire drill at Rodriguez Range Mar. 19.



Armor Piercing 120mm main gun rounds are inventoried and set aside for issue before the range.



A view from underneath the tracks of a M1A1 Abrams while it's Soldiers prepare for battle.

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1-1 Cav's M1A1s are painted tan for desert combat, while the tanks that are from units stationed in Korea are painted green.

anks rolled along the well worn ground at Rodriguez Range. While some were painted tan and some green, they communicated with each other and used teamwork to move skillfulyaround the battlefield.

Soldiers and equipment from Charlie troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Battalion stationed in Germany arrived and deployed in Korea to augment the armor units already stationed here. They brought M2A2 Bradley and M1A1 Abrams armor to add to the fight.

"They brought overseas deployment experience that helped us codify our own RSOI operations," said 1st Lt. Franklin Slavin, an adjutant with the 1st Brigade, 2nd Infantry division. "It showed many of our younger Soldiers the rapidity with which the United States Army can deploy on worldwide missions, arrive combatready, and assimilate with forces already in country."

The Soldiers qualified with the vehicle's weapons and practiced covering each other while advancing on the enemy. The 1-1 brought experience from the battlefield in Iraq to share with Soldiers who are training in Korea.

"All wartime experience is valuable to the war fighter and the

lessons learned permeate all that we do," said Slavin. "Even though the terrain and culture of a country may change, it does not change the basic TTPs by which we all train. Lessons learned from war, help us refine old techniques and develop new solutions to the evolving nature of land warfare."



Soldiers in M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicles prepare for qualifications.



3rd Stryker Brigade Soldiers roll down the road and watch for enemies during Operation Vignette.

Strykers complement SROKA during operation Vignette

By Pfc. Riley S. Huskey 19th Theater Support Command PAO

o kick off the 2005 Reception, Staging, Onward movement and Integration exercise, the 3rd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, of Fort Lewis, Wash., landed at the K2 Air Force Base March 18 in support of this year's mission.

After returning from Iraq in November, this platoon along with Soldiers from 8th U.S. Army and the Second ROK Army teamed with ROK civilian emergency medical teams to show the different resources a convoy under attack in Korean terrains.

"The overall mission was to have a safe training event that showed the capabilities of the United States Army in the event that forces would be called upon to support convoys on the Korean peninsula," said Maj. Hank Young, 19th Theater Support Command G-3 current operations officer, who served as the officer in charge of involved U.S. Army assets.

Operation Vignette began March 21 as a platoon from the 46th Transportation Company, 498th Corps Support Battalion, conducted onward movement convoy operations on an unsurfaced road near the 2nd ROK Army Headquarters in Deagu. While enroute, the 14-

vehicle convoy was "attacked" by North Korean forces using improvised explosive devices, which in-turn sparked immediate-action battle drills and the return of fire. ROK miltary aviation and civilian vehicles re-



3rd Stryker Brigade Soldiers stay vigilant on their vehicles during the convoy exercise.

sponded to the ambush. In addition, the 6th Cav. provided two Apache helicopters to act in a combined quick reaction force role.

"I learned a lot from the Strykers coming over," Young said. "They



JO2 John J. Pistone

Stryker team members join the fight from the vehicle's rear exit during a firefight with simulated enemies.

brought a lot of real-world lessons. The camaraderie they had within their unit was awesome."

Sgt. Maj. John E. Swain, the 19th TSC G-3 sergeant major, agreed and said Operation Vignette was a good experience for the Strykers.

"The Strykers had an opportunity to do their wartime mission in an environment they're probably not familiar with," Swain said. "Having just returned from combat in October, this was their opportunity to train on their wartime mission in support of (Department of Defense) goals and initiatives."

When the convoy came under attack, the Stryker vehicles set up a base perimeter to kill the enemy and secure the area for the rest of the convoy and EMTs to pass by. When the enemy attack was too strong for the Soldiers, than a helicopter reconnaissance would be called upon with an air assault team.

"Understanding the new world we live in, when it comes to combat logistics patrols—you're more offensive then defensive," said Swain. "What I learned is aggressiveness and a show of force can be a deterrence when it comes to being hit with IEDs and soft-shell elements. The more firepower you display, the less likely you'll be attacked."

On top of lessons learned, relationships and bonds formed, and

high-quality training, Young said he didn't stand alone.

"This wasn't anything that I did by myself," Young said. "I just happened to be surrounded by some really good U.S. Soldiers who enjoyed doing their job and enjoyed the training event. That makes all the world of a difference."



PH1(SW) James Christophe

A Soldier defends his position from attack during an attack on his convoy.

nds for

MPs process



Step 1: Upon entry, the EPW is

searched from

head to toe...



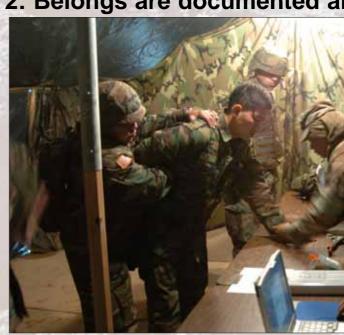
Step 2: Belongs are documented a

ou are now in Camp Mad Dog!" A voice blares from a portable CD player on one of the guard towers. The voice gives prisoners instructions in english, then repeats them in Korean.

At a rate of about 30 prisoners a day, Soldiers from the 557th MP Company augmented by the 368th MP from Guam processed enemy prisoners of war during RSOI. The whole process takes about 2 hours, and each step is necessary.

"They could come from anywhere, from the very front of the line to right outside our gate," said 2nd Lt. James Pacheco, a platoon leader with the 557th MP company. They could come to five EPW camps before they reach our camp but normally they're captured forward, and are processed back to our camp."

MPs working inside the camp employ many safety measures. Guards stand at each of the concertina wire gates, and a quick reaction force wearing riot gear stands outside. For captors and captives alike, no weapons are allowed into the coupound for safety reasons.



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Step 3: ph

hostile forces

prisoners for transfer to ROK



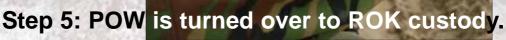


Step 4: POW is weighed in and interviewed.

otos document condition...

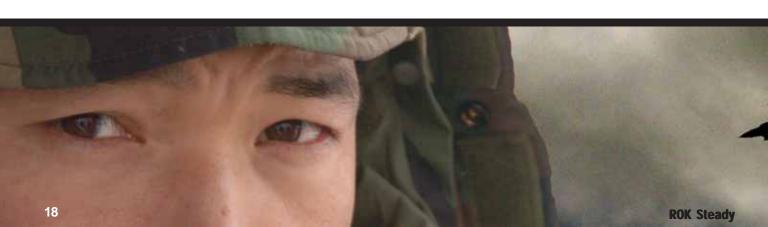
nd fingerprints are taken...







Special forces eyes for ROKSE train to call



Story and Photos by Spc. Daniel Love Editor

fter spending two weeks in the classroom studying under ▲U.S. Special Forces Detachment-Korea instructors, 30 Republic of Korea special forces soldiers from across the Peninsula successfully called in U.S. Air Force precision air strikes at a range in South Korea, Mar. 2.

SFDK Soldiers and airmen trained their South Korean counterparts in **ROK Special Warfare Training** Group classrooms. During the two weeks of working together at SWTG, the ROK special forces soldiers learned about using close air support and laser range finders to mark

targets for A-10s

and F-16s.

"Because we're working with special operations soldiers, they won't be operating near friendly units," said Maj. Jefferson R. Panton, U.S. Army SFD-K commander. "So what we do is terminal guidance operations."

After the targets were determined, the attacking aircraft were



called by radio from the ground. The ROK special forces spoke English directly to make sure the pilot was moving in the right direction, and give him the target's elevation,

description, and Global Positioning System coordinates. The special forces operators guided eight sorties of attacking aircraft out of the clouds and watched as the GPSguided practice bombs and real bullets tore into the targets with deadly precision.

"We're able to do this because the ROK soldier is highly educated, highly motived, and able to speak enough English so that we can conduct this course in a very short time. Outside of NATO countries, I think this is the first time this has been attempted with an allied force," said Panton.

The newly trained special forces Soldiers will train others in their units on the same tactics.

"If you're a special forces element on the ground, all you have as far as firepower is what you're carrying with you," said Panton. "This allows you to tap into all the firepower of the U.S. Air Force. It increases your lethality and your survivability tenfold."

While these tactics support the mission of special forces units, they also support the mission of the Air Force.

"Especially in Korea because of the terrain, it's important that the pilots get an accurate marking onto the target. These munitions are multi-million dollar munitions, and you're not going to drop them onto a target unless you know you have an exact grid coordinate. It's the evolution of warfare. They know that when they have SF marking on the ground, that they have an accurate marking of that target."

"We needed to increase our interoperability between ourselves, because we work hand in hand with each other," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeffery Johnson, a coalition support team leader for the 3rd Republic of Korea Special Forces Brigade. "Some of our missions may have joint targets, and we have to be able to function together."

r fighters in the skies







Story and Photos by Spc. Daniel Love

Editor

ocated about 40 miles off of the Peninsula's southern coast, the famous Island of Jeju is waiting for you.

One of the most famous vacation spots in Korea, Jejudo is full of ways to have a relaxing holiday or an adventure tour, or a mix of both.

Tourists in search of something exciting have many activities to choose from. Places to participate in activities dot the island, ranging from submarine tours to horseback beach rides to all-terrain vehicle riding, and many more. Balloon tours give breathtaking views of the island, weather permitting.

The four coasts of Jeju are unique from each other, and each has its own landscape and weather. While one part is warm, it could easily be snowing somewhere else. In the center of the island is Hallasan, a 1,950 meter dormant volcano that is hot in the summer and covered in snow in the winter.

While opportunities for adventure are ample, the

chance to relax is just as prevalent. Jeju is known to have the best beaches in Korea, with clean water and lower numbers of people than beaches on Peninsula. On the southern side of the island, four star hotels like the Hyatt and Lotte hotels provide visitors with luxury and entertainment day and night.

The best way to get

Submarine rides in Seoguipo cost 50,000 won for adults and 35,000 won for kids. The underwater tour features views of native fish and plantlife.

Korea's

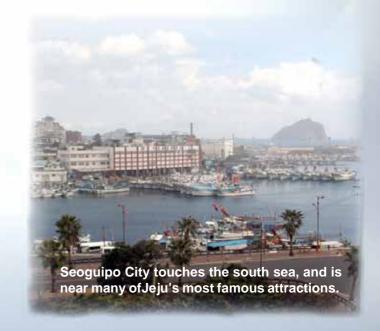


around Jeju is by rental car. While buses and ferries provide other options, a rental car can take tourists with international driver's licenses anywhere on the island in about an hour, traffic permitting. Rental car agencies operate out of all of the major hotels, as well as many locations around the airport.

The fastest way to get there is by airplane, which can be taken from Gimpo airport. Many planes taxi tourists from mainland airports to Jeju every day. An airplane from Seoul to Jeju international airport takes about an hour, and costs a little over \$110, if reserved a few weeks in advance. On-post travel offices and the USO offer plane tickets and trips to the island. Make sure to bring military identification in order to be admitted onto the plane. Major hotels on the island provide shuttle buses and special taxis to get visitors from the airport, which is on the northern coast, to the most popular tourist area on the southern coast.

When away from the tourist zones, those who only speak English will have trouble communicating what they are trying to do, as most Jeju residents are very limited in english speaking abilities. Its good to keep a cell phone handy to call a Korean friend or 1-588-5644, the volunteer translation service.

For more information on travel to Jejudo, visit http://english.tour2korea.com.



outhern Satellite

Jeongbang falls, located on the south side of the island, is famous for its spectacular views, especially at sunset. It is the only waterfall in Korea to fall into the ocean.

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The crowd goes wild as KATUSA Cpl. Jang, Ji-hoon belts out some lyrics from one of the band's several Korean songs.

"Access Denied" gives ticket to entertainment

Story and Photos by Spc. Daniel Love *Editor*

hile their 8th U.S. Army band comrades were guarding Command Post Oscar and concentrating on security, the members of Access Denied, a show group from the 8th U.S. Army band was rocking the world of a stadium full of Korean National

Police in a KNP appreciation concert Mar. 18 at Daegu Health College.

The group played for the KNPs as well as students to improve community relations during the exercise as part of the 8th U.S. Army good neighbor program.

"We are a positive reflection of the military, musicians are seen as non-threatening," said CW3 Aaron Graff, band commander. "Its important that we are here during exercises be-

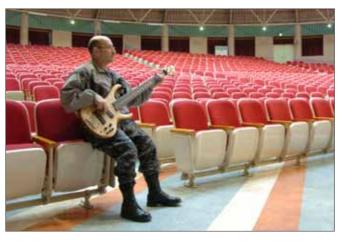
cause the community knows we're playing wargames and it's a good chance for them to see that we're doing other things other than combat training."

The band usually plays during exercises because even though they are keeping their combat skills sharp, they need to keep their band skills up to par as well.

"At first they see us in uniform and they get their first impression, but once they see us on stage, it's a totally different world," said Spc. Victor Trinidad, a vocalist for the band. "We get the crowd involved. I go grab people from the audience and bring them up on stage, we try to get them into it. The more integration with the public we have, the more we become family-like."

The band played a variety of music, including some country, R&B, rock, funk, and even Korean music. At one point in the show, and American band member was singing in Korean, and all of the audience was waving their hats in the air.

"The music is a universal language," said Spc. Tristan Adams, a saxaphone player. "When we walk in and see the crowds faces, they're like 'oh my gosh, these are Americans what's going to happen,' so we suddenly hit with some sound and they all get into it."



Staff Sgt. Ray Trevino practices before the big show.



Reunion in Korea 2005

Reunion Program is conducted for the purpose of enabling USFK members to bring their family members for a visit to Korea. Since 1981, over 18,000 family members and more than 7,900 USFK personnel thoroughly enjoyed their participation in the four-day program in Korea. Participants have described the Reunion tour as a memorable, once-ina-lifetime experience.

The Reunion Program members will have a trip to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)/ Panmunjom, 3rd Infiltration Tunnel, Observation Post Dora Observatory, Changdeok Palace & Secret Garden tour, the Korean Folk Village, Ceramic Pottery Village in Inchon, Seoul Tower, and the Korean War Memorial Museum. Application from family members and sponsors will be



A North Korean JSA guard

accepted on a first-received, first-reserved basis until available spaces are filled. In applications are submitted by fax or email, a deposit check must be forwarded by priority/first class mail at the same time the fax or email is sent. You may submit applications in person to the USO Korea Centers at Moyer Recreation Center, Camp Kim, Camp Casey, Camp Humphreys or Osan Air Force



Changdeok Palace, North Seoul, is especially pleasant in the summer.

TOUR DATES AND DEADLINES

| Reunion Dates | Application Deadline | Check Deadline | Cash Deadline |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| April 18-21, 2005 | February 26, 2005 | March 5, 2005 | March 12, 2005 |
| May 16-19, 2005 | March 26, 2005 | April 2, 2005 | April 9, 2005 |
| Sept. 19 - 22, 2005 | July 30, 2005 | August 6, 2005 | August 13, 2005 |
| Oct. 17 - 20, 2005 | August 27, 2005 | Sept. 3, 2005 | Sept. 10, 2005 |

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